

REMARKS

Claims 89-105 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 89-105 are added. The following cited passages and original claims 1-62 provide support for claims 89-105. In particular, support for claims 89 may be found on page 52, lines 22 - page 53, line 7 and on page 67, line 1-10; support for claim 93 may be found on page 47, lines 8-14; support for claim 94 may be found on page 106, lines 3-13 and on page 110, lines 6-14; support for claim 95 may be found on page 45, line 22 - page 46, line 2; support for claim 96 may be found on page 45, lines 9-15, for example. Claims 63-76 and 78-88 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims. A Request for Continued Examination is attached. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 63-65, 67-69 and 78-88 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,282,044 to Misawa in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,440,343 to Parulski; rejects claims 66, 70-73 and 75-76 over Misawa in view of Parulski, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0010705 to Min; and rejects claim 74 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Min view of Misawa and Parulski. The cancellation of claims 63-76 and 78-88 renders these rejection moot.

To the extent, however, that the references may be applied in rejection of the currently pending claims, the following remarks apply. The Office Action asserts, on page 3, that Misawa discloses an image restoration computing unit that corrects an image blur by executing image restoration through image processing. Misawa does not disclose, and would not have suggested, an image correction unit that executes a second image blur correction through image processing on an image captured by the image capturing unit, based on the detection result of the vibration detection unit, as recited in claim 89, and similarly recited in claims 97 and 102.

The Office Action relies on col. 1, lines 53-57 in Misawa as disclosing a vibration detection unit that detects a vibration and outputs a vibration detection signal. Col. 1, lines 53-57 are in the Background of the Invention section of Misawa, and state in context, "it is inexpensive because it does not use any mechanical sensor such as an angular velocity sensor of the like."

While the passage relied on by the Office Action is in the Background section of Misawa, Misawa discloses angular velocity sensor 55 in its figures and Description of the Preferred Embodiments Section (Fig. 4). However, Misawa only discloses using angular sensor 55 for mechanical blur correction (e.g. through mirror drive circuit 54), and not for electronic blur correction (Figs. 4 and 5). Thus, Misawa does not disclose, and would not have suggested, an image correction unit that executes a second image blur correction through image processing on an image captured by the image capturing unit, based on the detection result of the vibration detection unit, as recited in claim 89, and similarly recited in claims 97 and 102. Parulski and Min are not applied in any manner that would overcome the above-identified shortfall in the application of Misawa to the subject matter recited in claims 89, 97 and 102.

In view of the above, the combinations of applied references would not have suggested the subject matter recited in claims 89, 97 and 102. The remaining claims variously depend from claims 89, 97 and 102. Thus, the combinations of applied references would not have suggested the combinations of features recited in claims 90-96, 98-101 and 103-105 for at least their dependence on a respective allowable base claim, as well for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 89-105 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time  
Request for Reconsideration

Date: October 2, 2008

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